68-1941

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

BLAME MONEY WORRIES FOR TWO SUICIDES

Leap From Window And Bullet Chosen As Ways Out Of Life

DEC 27 194

Worries, aggravated by the development of financial difficulties which are felt most keenly around this time of the year, shortly before Christmas, were blamed for two suicides and one suicide attempt this week.

Monday afternoon, residents in a building at 4056 Calumet avenue, heard a pistol shot in the second floor apartment. Police were called and upon investigating found the body of Mrs. Edna Bright, 43, slumped upon the floor of her bedroom.

DEC 27 1941

The victim's husband, Adolph, a chef for the Illinois Central, was out on his run at time of the tragedy. Funeral services will be held Friday at 9 a.m., from St. Elizabeth's church, Forty-first street and Wabash avenue. Interment will be made in Mount Olive cemetery.

Earlier Monday, Mrs. Pauline Dailey, 38, is said by police to have attempted suicide by leaping from her third floor apartment into the yard below. The victim is reported in a critical condition as result of a fractured spine, possible fracture of the skull and internal injuries sustained in the fall.

Edward Tennebaum, 45, of 5218 Harper avenue, died at Cook county hospital Saturday, several hours after he slashed his throat with a razor while visiting friends at 5435 Indiana avenue. Relatives said the victim had been brooding over financial difficulties and poor health for several weeks.

DEC 27 194

68-1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Roaming Prisoner Is Suicide

Jealousy Believed Motive

JAN 11 1941

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — (SNS)—A trusty, serving a life sentence for murder, took his own life here this week after he shot and killed a 25-year-old woman.

Sent up for life from Hale County in 1934, Willie Lee, a 52-year-old trusty of Kilby Prison, blew his own brains out with a shotgun while a posse was closing in on him.

Police said Lee called Mrs. Lillie Mae Davis, mother of a small child, from her home and shot her dead. She resided between West Boyleston and Prison Camp No. 4.

Because of good behavior, Lee had been elevated to the trusty rank. He had been assigned to looking after cattle and fences This work allowed him the privileges of roaming over a large territory.

It was doing his roaming that he met the young woman and started a friendship.

Coroner M. B. Kirkpatrick was quoted as saying Lee was probably jealous of the woman and killed her after going into a rage.

Prison officials put bloodhounds on Lee's trail after the slaying of the woman was reported to police.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

DESPONDENCY CAUSES SUICIDE ON NEW YEAR'S

JAN 5 1941

Before the shocked eyes of passengers waiting for the north bound elevated at the 43rd street "L" station, New Year's morning Donald Milon, better known as Donald Bill, 4150 Calumet avenue aged 24 leaped in front of the "L" and was cut to pieces before the engineer could stop the train.

According to Bill's sister, the boy had been despondent over an unsuccessful love affair and had threatened to commit suicide on several occasions. On New Year's Eve he told her that he was going to electrocute himself sometime that night.

JAN 5 1941

At 10:20 a.m. New Year's Day Bill along with several others, was apparently waiting for the north bound "L" and as it drew near the station he threw himself down on the tracks and the first coach of the train passed over his body before the engineer, John Brown, could bring the "L" to a complete stop.

The body was extricated from under the "L" by the fire department and taken to Atkins morgue by fifth district police. The inquest was held at 9:30 Thursday morning.

JAN 5 1941

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Popular Young Matron Rescued After Death Try

JAN 5 1941

Mrs. Myrtle Thomas, 1245 W. 107th street, formerly Myrtle Anglin, well known member of the younger married set was thwarted in what appeared to be a suicide attempt Sunday when Gyrne English, 20-year-old graduate student at the University of Chicago, rescued her after she had leaped into the lake at 59th street.

English and a friend had been walking near there when they were summoned by the calls of a witness. When English reached the lake he saw Mrs. Thomas floundering and leaped in to rescue her.

Taken to the hospital, she identified herself as Mrs. Thomas but refused to disclose the cause of her attempt to take her own life.

JAN 5 1941

Hendersonville, N. C., Times-News
January 6, 1941

NEWER NEGRO SUICIDES

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (UP)—Six times as many white persons commit suicide in Alabama as Negroes. A survey of the state health department discloses that only 19 Negroes killed themselves in this state last year, as against 218 white persons.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

SUICIDE

Dear Editor: Life is very sweet . . . sometimes . . . and short! Reports have it that much misery and shortening of life is caused by humans doing too much worrying. Undoubtedly everybody must do a certain amount of this, or that person would not be human; regardless some folks do this in excess which proves unworthy. There are certain individuals who take things just as they come and in the majority of cases this lends assistance in the matter of making use of the number of years allotted to them.

FEB 8 1941

Negroes appear to be contented in most respects as a matter of fact it is more or less out of the ordinary to see where an attempt is made to "keep up with the other fellow." This goes hand in hand with the statement that there are fewer suicides of Negroes and that six times as many white people commit suicide in Alabama as Negroes. The survey discloses that about 10 per cent of the suicides during the last year were Negroes, white persons constituting the rest. —Norma Davidson, 45 Blossom street. East Dedham. Mass.

Negro Labor News
Houston, Texas

Belief He Was Under "Spell" Causes Man To Commit Suicide

GREENVILLE, S. C. —(ANP)— Believing that a "spell" had been put on him and fearing for his life, Homer Roberson, 23, left his home in Laureens county and got a job on Dewey Henderson's, white, farm, where he shot and killed himself, Thursday.

The investigating coroner said Henderson reported that Roberson, who had worked for him previously, came to his home early Thursday asking for work and saying that he had been threatened in Laureens. A few hours later a neighbor found Roberson's body outside the tenent house to which he had been assigned, with a charge from a 12-gauge single barrel shotgun through his heart. The coroner said the fatality was plainly a suicide and that no inquest would be necessary.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C

2 D. C. Suicides Bring Total To 5 in 2 Days

A 48-year-old woman and a 26-year-old colored man ended their lives yesterday, bringing to five the number of persons killing themselves here in two days. The coroner, Dr. A. Magruder Macdonald, issued verdicts of suicide in both cases.

Mrs. Lillian Shupp, 48, of 4121 Illinois Avenue Northwest, was discovered dead in her bedroom by her son, Walter Shupp, jr., about 4 p. m. yesterday when he returned hom from school.

She was holding a .25-caliber pistol in her right hand and there was a bullet wound in the right temple. She was pronounced dead by a doctor from Emergency Hospital at 4:25 p. m.

A student at Roosevelt High School, Walter said his mother was at home alone during the day. He identified the gun as his father's and said the latter was employed as a bookkeeper at the John Byrne Book Co.

Detective Sergt. Aubrey M. Tolson said the woman left no note but that members of the family told him she had been in ill health for some time.

JUN 5 1941

An unidentified colored man, about 26, walked to his death in the Potomac River yesterday at the foot of First Street Southwest.

Luther Walton, of 214 G Street Southwest, told police he was standing near the river's edge when the man walked into the water. The witness said the man disappeared from sight before he could reach him.

Harbor policemen recovered the body a short time later and it was taken to the morgue, where efforts to identify it were being made last night.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Deacon Commits Suicide In Kitchen Of D. C. Church

WASHINGTON, D.C.—After completing his day's work at the district recorder of deeds office where he was employed on a WPA project, Matthew Brown, 55, last week went to the Corinthian Baptist church, where he is a deacon..

A few hours later, his body was found before a gas stove with all jets open in the kitchen of the church by Miss Anna Hinton, 32, a member of the congregation.

A Casualty hospital ambulance was summoned by Dr. G. W. Fletcher, and pronounced the man dead.

MAR 5

Friends of Brown believe that his act was prompted by financial difficulties.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y

Woman Plunges To Death From 3rd Floor Apt.

Victim Was Vacationing Here with Sister; Despondency Blamed

NOV 8 6 1941

A youthful mother of three children, who had been vacationing here for the past two months, committed suicide last Wednesday by leaping from a fire escape at 409 W. 127th St. She was Laura Tipplitt, of Jackson, N. C.

Mrs. Tipplitt, only 23, died within an hour after being admitted to Harlem Hospital. Police say she made the fatal leap, after crawling through a third-floor window in the apartment of her sister, Mrs. Mae Wellington.

Funeral services were held Sunday with the Griffin Home, 66 W. 127th St., in charge and Bishop James K. Humphrey officiating. Burial took place in Frederick Douglass Cemetery, Staten Island.

Relatives say she became despondent after coming to New York, but gave no reason for it. Besides Mrs. Wellington, she is survived by her husband and the children who are living in North Carolina.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

She Changed Her Mind

MISS MARGARET SIMMONS, pretty Texas photographer, who was saved from an alleged suicide try in a Washington hotel, Tuesday, and JUN 28 1941 confessed to AFRO reporter that she's sorry and wants to live now. She was despondent, she said. —Johnson Photo.

rie View, Texas, told an AFRO reporter after she had been saved from a suicide attempt Tuesday. JUN 28 1941

The young women journalist was discovered in a rooming house at 1218 T Street, Northwest, after a physician had been summoned when occupants heard her fall and went to investigate. She admitted she had taken a strong dose of poison.

Miss Simmons, who has covered stories on military camps throughout the nation, reluctantly admitted that she tried to end it all because she seemed so far from her ambition of war correspondent and was disappointed with her work. Dr. Frank A. Turner attended her.

Mother Dead

The girl first became acquainted with camp life when she travelled with her mother while a child, when her parent cooked for army men.

She began taking camp pictures in high school, during the summer vacation, wearing flat-heeled shoes, tailored clothes and insisting that her one ambition was to be a military photographer or a war correspondent.

When her mother died four years ago, she set out to accomplish her ambition in earnest, and wandered from Panama to Oklahoma.

During the past five weeks in the nation's capital, she has spent at least four days out of every seven at either Fort Meade, Fort Belvoir, Fort Myer or Cabin John. John.

Girl, 17, Tries Gas

Found Unconscious in the kitchen of her home with gas flowing from four jets, Miss Pauline Peoples, 17, was given first aid treatment by the rescue squad of Emergency Hospital, then transferred to Gallinger Hospital. JUN 28 1941

According to police, Miss Peoples was found lying with her head upon a pillow on the kitchen floor of her home at 1826 California Street, Northwest, last Wednesday. Mrs. Cecelia Hobson, who lives next door to the victim, detected the odor of the gas and saved the girl's life.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

No Suicide for Margie

Took Poison, but She's Sorry Now, Girl Tells Afro

WASHINGTON

Two young women were thwarted in their alleged attempts to end their lives this week.

"I don't know what made me do it and I want to live now," pretty Margaret Simmons, girl military photographer from Prai- JUN 28 1941

TWO TRY SUICIDE SAME DAY

Woman and Youth Act In Fits of Despondency

A woman and a youth endeavored to end their lives Sunday in fits of despondency. The two, who doctors at Phillips Hospital said would recover, are Cora Robinson, 31, domestic, residing at 312 (rear) Convent St., and Garland Williams, 24, clerk, 2615 Gamble street.

Quarreled With Friend AUG 28 1941

Miss Robinson's case, it was learned, resulted from a quarrel with Lee Appleberry, with whom she resides. He stated that he left to avoid further argument and as he went out she remarked, "You'll find me dead when you come back." A short time later he returned to find her lying across the bed in a semi-conscious condition with an empty lysol bottle in her hand. She mumbled to him, "I've Done It."

Appleberry said that he suspected that she was "about intoxicated" as she had been drinking wine most of the day. 1941

Lost Job

The saving of Williams' life was attributed to Roy Lowe, 2605a Gamble street. He entered the garage at 2607 Gamble street to wipe off his machine about 7:00 p. m. Sunday and observed the motor of a truck in the garage running. He went to shut it off and discovered Williams slumped in the right front seat in an unconscious condition. He stopped the motor and called aid. Williams was rushed to Phillips Hospital suffering from carbon monoxide gas poisoning. 1941

Lavenia Williams, sister-in-law of the victim, 2615 Gamble street, stated Williams had lost his job at the New Star Market, 2750 Gamble street, Saturday, and it worried him. The truck in which he was found belonged to the New Star Market.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Case Is Closed By Cops

AUG 28 1941

By THEODORE GRAHAM

Police have marked finis to the Reed-Selby trunk murder-suicide, unveiled last week in one of the most gruesome crimes in Philadelphia criminal history.

Reed, a 74-year-old recluse-pensioner, carries the reason for the murder to the grave with him. Hattie Selby, 38-year-old sometime sweetheart of Reed, will never talk. It was her body, skull crushed and putrifying that was found crammed into a small trunk in Reed's room at 706 S. 12th street.

The old pensioner's body was dragged from the Delaware river drowned, last Saturday a week, four days before his friend was found in a second floor back room at the 12th st. address. AUG 28 1941

BODIES CLAIMED

At the coroner's inquest police declared it an open and shut case of murder-suicide. Reed's body was identified and claimed by relatives here, as was that of Miss Selby.

Reed had three sisters living here: Mrs. Pearl Crawford, 2208 Reed street; Mrs. Alberta Smith, 627 Main street, and Mrs. Bertha Tanner. Miss Selby had a brother, Randolph Selby, 1015 Waverly street.

At the time of the murder discovery last week it was first thought that the body in the trunk was that of William Reed. Packed in camphor balls and decayed beyond immediate identification it was only at the coroner's later that it was established that the corpse was a woman.

CASE A MYSTERY

Whether or not the murder victim in the trunk was killed in her sleep no one knows. Police investigation uncovered no person who admitted ever having heard an altercation in the room. AUG 28 1941

Reed was known to be a quiet person. He kept to himself and had been living with the woman at his address for about three years. She had ceased living with him for about a year until several months ago.

All conjecture, police and neighborhood, lead to the belief that the aged man might have spent several nights in the room beside the corpse in the trunk before leaving. He was last seen in the building on Thursday, Aug. 14.

MISSING TWO WEEKS

The woman had been missing from her usual haunts about two weeks. She was discovered on Tuesday, Aug. 19. Reed, according to police reckoning, committed suicide shortly after his last visit to the place.

On their records the case was closed approximately eight hours after it was made known Tuesday of last week, by the janitor and landlord of the apartment house.

Detective Sergeant Robert Forgy and Cecil Joyner, members of the homicide squad, made investigations in the case.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Turns on Gas In Home After 2 Other Tries

Report Married Woman Infatuated Over Man Many Years Younger

OCT 11 1941

A married woman's romance with a man much younger than herself was suddenly changed to tragedy early Monday when the woman, once "happily married" to a Connecticut white man, ended her own life by turning on the gas in her expensively furnished apartment at 310 West 139th St.

The suicide victim was immediately identified as Mrs. Julia Dorenberg, 41, who was well known as a designer of pretty clothes. The half-clad body was discovered by her youthful sweetheart, Arthur Mason, of 48 West 120th St.

She was seated in a chair, Mason told police, face downward, like a person who had just been electrocuted. OCT 11 1941

Two hours after Detective William Robinson (West 135th St. station) had been assigned to the investigation, he reported that the woman's husband was A. D. Dorenberg, member of a well known New Haven family.

The couple separated, it was also learned, soon after their marriage because of objections made by some of the husband's relatives.

away from her for more than a year, but she kept hanging on, saying she wouldn't give him up."

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Mrs. Dorenberg's mother, also ite, was reported to be living Connecticut, too, but the body s still unclaimed Wednesday, llevue Morgue officials said.

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His friends told reporters that Arthur has been trying to break

attempt to take her own life. Once to tell before, neighbors revealed, she took two boxes of aspirin tablets but medical aid was administered in time to save her.

None of her intimate friends seemed surprised by the tragedy. Mason "We knew it was coming," one of them said, "but nobody was able to change her mind. She just loved Arthur to death and it was hard

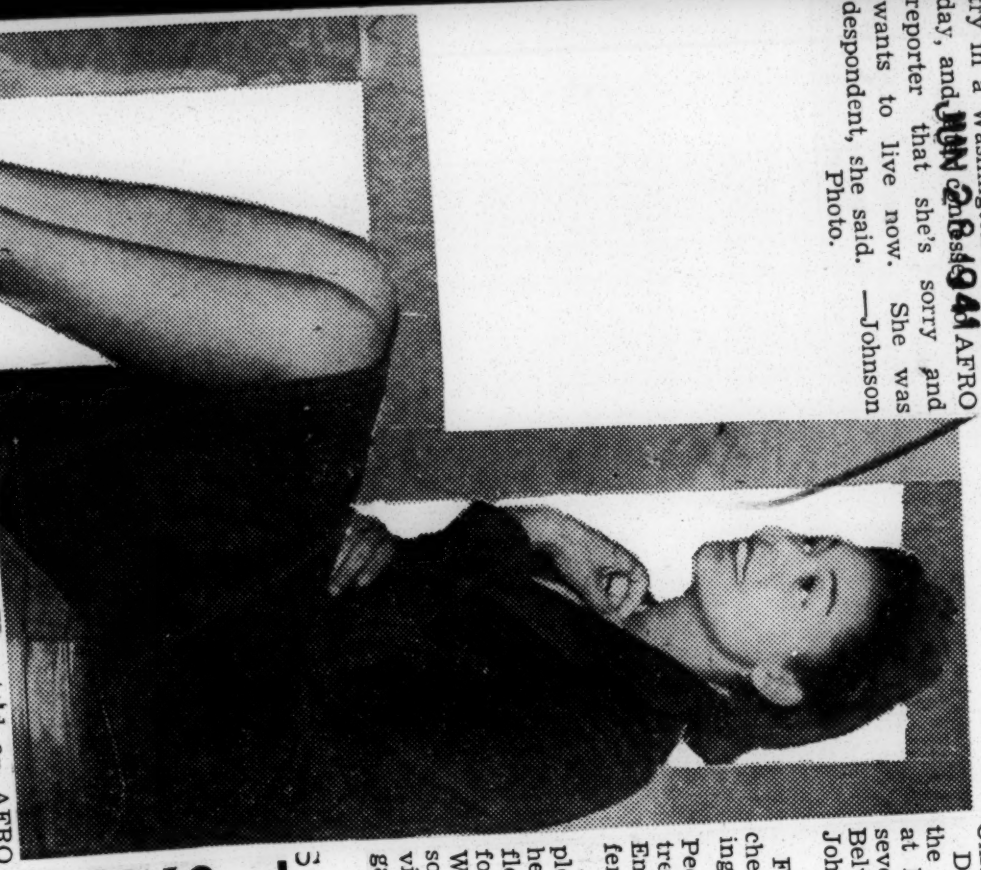
Third Suicide Try

For the victim, it was her third

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

She Changed Her Mind

MISS MARGARET SIMMONS, pretty Texas photographer, who was saved from an alleged suicide try in a Washington hotel, Tuesday, and JUN 28 1941 AFRO reporter that she's sorry and wants to live now. She was despondent, she said. —Johnson Photo.



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Miss Simmons, who has covered stories on military camps throughout the reluctantly admitted that she tried to end it all because she seemed so far from her ambition of war correspondent and was disappointed with her work. Dr. Frank A. Turner attended her.

Mother Dead

The girl first became acquainted with camp life when she travelled with her mother while a child, when her parent cooked for army men.

She began taking camp pictures in high school, during summer vacation, wearing flat-heeled shoes, tailored clothes and insisting that her one ambition was to be a military photographer or a war correspondent.

When her mother died four years ago, she set out to accomplish her ambition in earnest, and wandered from Panama to Oklahoma.

During the past five weeks in the nation's capital, she has at least four days out of seven at either Fort Meade, Belvoir, Fort Myer or Cabin John.

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The trunk was found in a second floor back room at the 12th address.

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CASE A MYSTERY

In Home After 2 Other Tries

Woman Found Dead in Trunk Was Married

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

TWO TRY SUICIDE SAME DAY

Woman and Youth Act In Fits of Despondency

A woman and a youth ended their lives Sunday in separate attempts to end their lives of despondency. The young women journalist was discovered in a rooming day in fits of despondency. Thi house at 1218 T Street, North- two, who doctors at Phillip west, after a physician had been Cora Robinson, 31, domestic, re summoned when occupants heard siding at 312 (rear) Convent St her fall and went to investigate. and Garland Williams, 24, cleri She admitted she had taken a 2615 Gamble street. strong dose of poison.

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All conjecture, police and neighborhood, lead to the belief that the aged man might have spent several nights in the room beside the corpse in the trunk before leaving. He was last seen Wednesday.

Reed, according to police reckoning, committed suicide shortly after his last visit to the place.

On their records the case was closed approximately eight hours after it was made known Tuesday of last week, by the janitor and landlord of the apartment house.

Detective Sergeant Robert Forgy and Cecil Joyner, members of the homicide squad, made investigations in the case.

Argus
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None of her intimate friends seemed surprised by the tragedy. "We knew it was coming," one of them said, "but nobody was able to change her mind. She just loved Arthur to death and it was hard attempt to take her own life. Once before, neighbors revealed, she took two boxes of aspirin tablets but medical aid was administered in time to save her.

Mrs. Dorenberg's mother, also white, was reported to be living in Connecticut, too, but the body was still unclaimed Wednesday, Bellevue Morgue officials said.

Mason's name entered the case when he admitted to police that he was one of the woman's best friends.

His friends told reporters that "Arthur has been trying to break away from her for more than a year, but she kept hanging on, saying she wouldn't give him up."

investigation, he reported that the woman's husband was A. D. Dorenberg, member of a well known New Haven family.

The couple separated, it was also learned, soon after their marriage because of objections made by some of the husband's relatives.

Third Suicide Try

For the victim, it was her third

68-1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Body Of Editor, Alleged Suicide, Still Missing

DEC 11 1940

DEC 11 1940

LOS ANGELES—(ANP)— Although he disappeared a month ago after leaving a suicide note, the body of Leroy S. Hart, newspaperman, teacher, and recently editor of the national circulated Silhouette Magazine, has not yet been found.

On the morning after he was last seen, his landlady at the Keller apartments where Hart had a large suite of rooms discovered a note addressed to her. In it the 40 year old writer told her that he was going to take the 'easiest way out" and commit suicide. He instructed her to dispose of his effects, these including a typewriter, piano, many books, clothing, ornaments, etc.

Persistent inquiry by his friends and associates has not disclosed the least information as to his fate, or if he is still alive as to his whereabouts. Police who were notified at the time and listed him in the Bureau of missing persons have checked all reports of bodies found since then, but identification proved none of them to be the missing man.

Hart was for several years a professor of West Virginia State College.

Suicide Attempt By Youth, 19

JAN 24 1941

Wm. Doutherd, 19, was conveyed to Phillips Hospital Monday about 8:20 p.m. from his home at 1400 Glasgow avenue.

He was examined by Dr. Pearl Williams and pronounced suffering from iodine poisoning, not necessarily serious.

When questioned by officers, Doutherd stated that he was despondent over his wife, Thelma, leaving him about a week ago and drank about one ounce of iodine in an attempt to end his life.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

PROMINENT EDUCATOR IS MISSING OVER A WEEK

Disappearance A Mystery

Dr. WILLIS N. HUGGINS

Finding Of His Coat On Bridge Here Leads To Belief He's Suicide

JAN 4 1941

Did Dr. Willis N. Huggins, nationally known Negro historian, Commissioner of Education for the I.B.P.O.E. of W. commit suicide because of financial difficulties? Was he a victim of foul play? Or has he just left the city on a pleasure jaunt?

These are the questions which the Police Department is attempting to find answers to as result of the finding of a coat, identified as Dr. Huggins' by his nephew, Rudolph L. Huggins, on the George Washington Bridge, Monday evening, December 23.

A resident at 1890 Seventh avenue, and proprietor of the Blyden Book Shop at 2296½ Seventh avenue, Dr. Huggins was reported missing from the city and Detective Oberhaus of the Missing Persons Bureau assigned to the case on December 23. First clue in the mystery came that evening when Det. Corbey of the 34th Precinct found a coat on the George Washington Bridge and Dr. Huggins' nephew identified it as belonging to his missing uncle. Immediately police of the Harbor Squad were despatched to the scene and started grappling for a body on the theory that Dr. Huggins was a suicide.

Mrs. Rosetta Huggins, his wife, who was in North Carolina visiting her mother over the holidays, was hastily summoned back to the city but made herself unavailable to reporters. During the week the telephone in their apartment was disconnected. On Tuesday morning in the Blyden Book Shop, she broke down in front of two reporters from The New York Age and cried:

"I don't know anything about it, except that he's missing."

Attorney John A. Ross sr., lawyer for the missing man who is teacher of history in Bushwick High School and assistant principal of Harlem Evening High School, had no information to divulge except that he scouted the suicide and foul play theories, saying it was nothing unusual for Dr. Huggins to leave the city for four or five days without disclosing his destination.

Attorney Ross said that rumors had reached his ears about Dr. Huggins being in financial difficulties but said there was nothing to indicate that they were anything but rumors. He said he would prefer to correlate all his facts before arriving at any conclusion.

In the meantime, friends and acquaintances are asking what has happened to Dr. Huggins?

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Man Uses Scissors in Suicide Attempt

JAN 25 1941

PHILADELPHIA

Despondency over a leg ailment that he believed would prove a handicap for life led Horace Jones, 42, of 1838 N. Twenty-second Street, to slit his throat with a pair of scissors, Friday, police said.

A deep gash in his neck, Jones was found lying on a blood-soaked bed on the second floor and rushed to Women's Homeopathic Hospital. He told police that he decided on suicide because he had "an incurable disease of the leg and couldn't bear the thought of living in this condition."

His wife, in whose custody he was released from the hospital, said that he had been under the care of Dr. Norman Lee of 2027 Master Street, for the past three weeks. Dr. Lee told detectives that Jones suffered from arthritis and a mild blood disease but nothing serious.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

DISAPPEARS JAN 4 19

Dr. Willis N. Huggins, schoolteacher and author, who disappeared from his home last week.

Asheville N. C. Citizen
February 9, 1941

FEWER SUICIDES OF NEGROES

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (UP) — Six times as many white persons commit suicide in Alabama as negroes. A survey of the state health department discloses that only 19 negroes killed themselves in this state last year, as against 218 white persons.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Called To Army; Commits Suicide Because Of Love

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Love, not unwillingness to be drafted into the Army, caused Cecil Vega, 23-year-old youth to take his own life Sunday, Det. Sergt. H. V. Branch of the police homicide squad announced Sunday.

Vega shot himself in his bedroom on Church street and died 20 minutes later. He was scheduled to be inducted into the Army, Sunday, and witnesses told police that was why he killed himself. A further investigation revealed the underlying motive, Sergeant Branch said.

AUG 2 1941

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Kills Wife's Family Of Four And Himself After An Argument

NOV 8 1941

MERIDIAN, Miss.—Because he had an argument with his wife, Percy Green, 34, of Pachuta, bought seven shotgun shells on Monday.

The first shell killed his wife, Louise Kelly Green, 18, with whom he had had the argument.

NOV 8 1941

Shell number 2 killed Rosie Lee Kelly, 35, his mother-in-law.

The third shell killed Hattie Lou Kelly, 75, his wife's grandmother.

The fourth shell killed Alex Kelly, 80, his wife's grandfather.

The fifth shell was fired at his own head as a posse of officers approached. The shot missed.

The sixth shell he fired at himself, dying instantly.

When the posse finally arrived there were five people dead and one shotgun shell unused.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Foul Play Feared In Mystery

JAN 11 1941

Suspect Dr. W. N. Huggins Murdered Or Kidnaped

JAN 11 1941

NEW YORK CITY—Has Dr. Willis N. Huggins, well known Harlem civic leader, author and educator, been murdered or kidnapped?

That is the question which police in New York and New Jersey are seeking to answer following the mysterious disappearance of the noted educator on December 23.

The theories of murder or kidnaping are most widely accepted by the police of New York and New Jersey who have sent out an eight-state alarm for Dr. Huggins who at the time of his disappearance held two jobs with the board of education as well as everal volunteer orgsanizational posts.

Except for his black overcoat found on a span of the George Washington Bridge connecting New York with upper New Jersey, there has been no trace of his whereabouts since Monday, December 23 when he disappeared mysteriously

DR. WILLIS N. HUGGINS

Dr. Huggins, who enjoyed a rating as one of New York's wealthiest Negroes, was professor of English history at the Bushwick High School in Brooklyn and assistant principal at the Wadleigh High School in Manhattan. His combined salary was one of the highest in the system, around $7,000 per annum.

It was common gossip that Dr. Huggins always carried a large bankroll in his pockets and since his disappearance detectives have learned that he was actually carrying $500 on his person.

He was last seen by friends and relatives on December 23 around 3 p. m. when he visited the Blyden Book Shop, a Harlem circulating library and depository for magazines and out-of-town newspapers. The shop is located at Seventh Avenue and 135th Street, next door to Small's Night Club, and is owned by Dr. Huggins.

A nephew, Rudolph Huggins, who operates the establishment, reported to detectives that Dr. Huggins had visited the shop around mid-afternoon but had left in less than an hour without leaving word as to his destination.

A New Jersey state police radio car, assigned to patrol duty on the George Washington Bridge and its approaches, discovered the coat during the early morning hours of December 24. A visiting card was found in a side pocket with Dr. Huggins' name and his home address, 1890 Seventh Avenue. New York police were notified and immediately contacted a niece, Miss Ellen Huggins at the above address. Miss Huggins later identified the coat as belonging to her uncle.

PROMINENT ELK

Dr. Huggins, a native of Alabama, entered the New York school system about twenty years ago after receiving degrees of B. S. and M. A. from Columbia University and a Ph. D. from Fordham. He was prominent in Elk circles and very active in civic work.

During the Italo-Ethiopian war, he visited London and was commissioned by Emperor Haile Selassie to collect funds for Abyssinia in this country.

WIFE ILL JAN 11 194

His wife, Mrs. Roberta E. Huggins, was visiting relatives in the South at the time of her husband's disappearance. She returned to New York immediately upon being notified but was so shocked by the news that she has been under the care of a physician ever since.

Detectives admitted on Monday that they had unearthed additional clues pointing to foul play. Inasmuch as the Hudson River has not yet yielded the body of Dr. Huggins, there is a strong tendency to believe that the professor, while being transported in a car across the bridge to New Jersey, had thrown his overcoat out the window as a marker for police.

Dr. Huggins co-authored "A Guide to Studies in African History" in 1934 with John G. Jackson of London. He served on the Board for Research on African Civilizations, Cultures and Social Institutions of New York City.

He holds a certicate in history from Oxford University in London, and one in history and geography from the Guide Internationale in Paris, France.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

CLOSE FRIENDS DOUBT SUICIDE OF EDUCATOR

'Hiding Out' Theory Expressed; Book Shop Closes

JAN 11 1941

Belief that Dr. Willis N. Huggins, internationally famed author and historian who disappeared suddenly and mysteriously Christmas Eve, is still alive and not a suicide, was expressed this week by his intimate associates who hinted that the educator might have deemed it wise to drop out of sight for a while until certain matters were clarified.

Substantiation of the theory that Dr. Huggins is still alive, but in hiding, is borne out by the persistent refusal of members of his family, including his wife, Rosetta, who is a teacher, also to discuss the case with newspapermen. Mrs. Huggins even had the phone company discontinue her service at the Huggins' apartment, 1890 Seventh Ave.

Meanwhile, the Blyden Book Shop, 135th St. and Seventh Ave., formerly operated by Dr. Huggins, was suddenly closed shortly after the owner was reported missing. A reporter was told by a salesman in the bookshop to "see Dr. Huggins" when he asked what had become of the educator. Detective Secor, in charge of the investigation, told reporters: "There's nothing new on the case, but we're still looking for him."

A friend of Dr. Huggins said he "would report to work next Monday." Dr. Huggins, a veteran member of the city public school system, was assigned to the Bushwick high school in Brooklyn. Doubt, however, was expressed that the educator will return to work in face of the adverse publicity attending his disappearance.

The story was going the rounds over the weekend that Dr. Huggins was involved in debt to the extent of $500 and that he had promised a creditor to turn over his salary check at about the time he disappeared. It was said his venture in the Book Shop, while spectacularly racial in its appeal to the intellect of Harlem's reading public, it was not a financial bonanza, due to the fact that most of the folk who would ordinarily buy or rent books were busy hunting jobs through the classified advertisements in the newspapers. It was believed that Dr. Huggins had put a large sum of money into the venture and when his creditors asked for their money, things happened, among them being his sudden and mysterious disappearance and the widely circulated report that his coat and hat had been found on the George Washington Bridge.

Claudius P. Sterrett, Seventh Ave. undertaker, and an intimate friend of Dr. Huggins, said: "I don't believe Dr. Huggins jumped from the George Washington Bridge as reported last week. I still think he's well and alive."

While reports were circulated that Dr. Huggins might be "resting" or "vacationing" in New Jersey. Other rumors had him "hiding out" in Harlem, presumably with friends at 409 Edgecombe Ave.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Columbus, Ga. Man Is Listed As A Suicide

AUG 29 1941

Quoted As Saying He Was Tired of Life

COLUMBUS, Ga.—(SNS)—Odell Humber, about 40, was found dead early Monday morning, his body dangling from a porch rafter. Humber's body was found at his own residence, 1909 Fifth Avenue, by a passerby, George Hogan.

AUG 29 1941

Hogan immediately notified the police department and Officer Land made an investigation, finding Humber dead on his arrival. Death was believed to be due to strangulation. A cornor's jury later rendered a verdict of suicide. C. H. Akins was foreman of the cornor's jury.

Testimony submitted at the inquest conducted by Cornor H. M. Woodal brought out from Bedell Smith, who is a next door neighbor to Humber, that Humber came home drinking and made a statement to him that he was tired of living. He further testified that he went to bed and found Humber hanging from the rafter of the front porch of his home.

Humber appears to have taken his belt from his pants and drew it tight around his neck and tied the other end over the rafter and stepped from the porch which seems to have been 3 or 4 feet high with no protecting railing.

AUG 29 1941

A representative of the World viewed the body at a local undertaking establishment, which still had the belt around his neck. There seems to be no other evidence of violence about the body, in so far as the World reporter could discern.

68-1941
Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Harlem Evening High School Girl Dies by Hanging; Called Suicide

FEB 22 1941

HEMPSTEAD, L. I.—Was the case of pretty 22-year-old Miss Beryl Boyce, a native of Panama, suicide by strangulation, or did she meet her death last Saturday afternoon in the home of wealthy Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morson, on 203 Cathedral Avenue, by other means?

That is the question in the minds of relatives and close friends of the young student who attended language classes at Harlem Evening High School, was a resident of this country for only four years, and worked as a maid for $40 a month to earn her tuition.

The story surrounding the mysterious death of Miss Boyce, called "fantastic" by Dalrymple Carrington, her uncle, of 127 West 141st street runs as follows:

According to the girl's employer, Mrs. Morson, Miss Boyce was in her private bathroom when the white woman heard a loud noise similar to a door closing. She immediately left downstairs where she was preparing dinner and ran to the scene, where she found the young woman hanging by a cord tied to the door knob and thrown over the top of the door.

Mr. Carrington said the wealthy white woman told him the girl, when discovered, was in a kneeling position, her toes touching the floor. Mrs. Morson is said to have called her son asking for the shears and after cutting the body down applied first aid in vain.

The girl's uncle told The Amsterdam Star-News that he was unable to contact Mineola police for further information as each time he called the person who conducted the investigation was always out.

Made Nervous Wreck

Mrs. Vivian Carrington, the girl's aunt, stated that Miss Boyce had accused the Morsons of nagging her to the extent that she was almost a nervous wreck.

"She told me no later than last week," Mrs. Carrington added, "that Mrs. Morson's son rebuked her for breaking a glass and that he was constantly nagging her about breaking his mother's antiques."

Refused to Talk

Mrs. Morson was reached over the telephone by a Star-News reporter but refused to give any information or even to divulge her first name. "I have nothing to say. The police told me not to give out any information. I prefer not to give my first name," she replied when questioned about the tragedy.

Detective Joseph P. Culkin, of the Mineola Police Departmen told the Amsterdam Star-News that as far as the police was concerned the case was closed It was a suicide case and despondency seemed to have been the motive.

FEB 22 1941

Miss Boyce's relatives said they knew of no reason, romantic or otherwise that should cause their niece to have taken her life and expressed surprise that no suicide note was left. She had no financial or other obligations, they insisted.

No Post Mortem

No post mortem examination or inquiry was conducted it was admitted, the only medical report being the findings of Dr. J. W. Freireich, medical examiner who called it a suicide.

Following funeral services conducted by the Rev. Shelton Hale Bishop at Walter A. Chase's Funeral Parlor, Wednesday, the body was buried in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Survivors are her father William Boyce, three sisters and five brothers, all residents of Panama.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Verdict Of Suicide Returned In Negro's Leap At Courthouse

FEB 27 1941

A verdict of suicide was returned by County Investigator Gip M. Evans in the death of James Turner, alias "Buddy" Wade, 33-year-old confessed slayer held in what the state contends was an insurance murder, after a jump from the sixth floor of the courthouse Wednesday.

Turner, handcuffed, made the leap as he was being led back to the County Jail on the seventh floor by George Hanks, bailiff in the court of Circuit Judge Robert J. Wheeler, where Turner had been a state witness against another Negro charged with being a conspirator in the slaying. He leaped a four-foot counter after breaking away from Hanks and plunged through a window two feet wide, feet first.

The Negro's body landed in a concrete driveway, narrowly missing a car parked just outside the door of the office of Sheriff Holt A. McDowell.

FEB 27 1941

Charles W. Greer, Turner's attorney, said Thursday he was convinced the Negro was insane and asserted he had planned to file an insanity motion in the case. Assistant Solicitor Willard McCall said the Negro had agreed to plead guilty and receive a life sentence.

Meanwhile, the trial of Frank Perdue, 46, against whom Turner had testified, neared conclusion in Judge Wheeler's court. Turner also was a state witness in the trial of Lillie McDowell, 33, widow of the slain man. The McDowell woman was acquitted earlier this week.

Police Chief T. A. Riley was a character witness Wednesday for Perdue.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Kills Woman In Jealous Argument Then Shoots Self

FEB 23 1941

Murder and an attempted suicide ended the romance of a 40-year-old white woman and her colored paramour early Monday morning when Bob Marion, 5617 Prairie avenue, shot and killed Mrs. Pearl Barnett, white, of 5439 Prairie avenue, on the street in front of 5460 Michigan avenue.

Marion turned the gun on himself, inflicting a head wound from which he is not expected to recover. The slaying and suicide attempt is believed to have followed an altercation motivated by Marion's jealousy of the woman's alleged relations with another man.

FEB 23 1941

Former Sweethearts

Investigation conducted by Detectives O'Donnell and Johnson of 5th district, disclosed that he and the woman had been sweethearts for sometime. Five months ago, it was stated, she went to live with Robert Barnett at 5439 Prairie avenue, as his wife.

It is believed that she kept a clandestine engagement with Marion and that the couple quarreled over Barnett. There was only one witness, a Jack Gilbert of 5812 South Parkway.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

JUMPS OUT OF A 6TH FLOOR COURT WINDOW

MAR 8 1941

Slayer Of Store-Keeper Commits Suicide After Testifying

BIRMINGHAM—(ANP) — After testifying in the trial of Frank Perdue, former manager of the Black Barons baseball team, James Turner, alias Buddy Wade, leaped to his death Wednesday from a sixth-floor courthouse window. He died as his body crumpled on the pavement outside the sheriff's office.

Turner, who had confessed to the killing of George McDowell, storekeeper of Powderly, was in the custody of the court bailiff as he walked down the main sixth floor corridor. The bailiff said: "Instead of turning left as I told him to, he ran through the door of the criminal clerk's office, vaulted over the counter and jumped through the casement window.

"He took glass and all; he struck the glass a blow with his handcuffs as he leaped."

MAR 8 1941

The confessed killer exhibited no reluctance in telling about his part in the McDowell murder. He said McDowell's wife and Perdue "hatched" the crime and that "I did the actual killing."

Turner landed on the pavement feet first. Witnesses said he made no outcry during the descent, but did attempt to brace his body just before striking the concrete.

The coroner returned a verdict of suicide.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Harlemite Is Suicide

APR 26 1941

Police of the 135th street station (32nd precinct) summoned to 200 West 134th street late Saturday evening found the prostrate body of Joseph Murray, a newsdealer, stretched across a bed. The man was dead when police arrived to find gas fumes filled his room. Authorities wrote off the case as a suicide, but no reason could be furnished.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Attempted Murder-Suicide Foiled; Principals In Critical Condition

FEB 10 1941

The desire of Charlie Leonard to end his own life and that of Miss Bessie Wimby, 25, 360 Hilliard Street, was still unexplained at press time Sunday night.

According to an eye witness who sat with the victim in her room in apartment 'C' of the above address, Leonard walked into the room at 11 a. m., and brandished a revolver.

Without a word he shot Miss Wimby in the stomach then placed the revolver to his own forehead and blazed away again. A minute later, Miss Mary Leonard, a cousin, took the gun and razor from Leonard and fled.

FEB 10 1941

Both were admitted to Grady in a very serious condition and Leonard is charged with intent to murder and attempted suicide. He is under arrest at Grady.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Despondent, Veteran U.S. Postal Clerk Takes Life

MAR 2 - 1941

Despondency over his health and the prospects of an extended illness are believed to have caused William Henry Greenwood, Sr., veteran postal clerk, to end his life in his home Saturday morning. He was 58 years old. He left his work ill the latter part of November.

After eating an unusually hearty breakfast about 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning, Mr. Greenwood went up stairs to an adjoining room to his bedroom and fired one shot into his head, it was learned. Mrs. Greenwood and her son and daughter, Leon and Eleanor, the only other persons in the house at the time the shot was fired, immediately rushed up stairs only to find Mr. Greenwood lying on the floor with a .32 calibre pistol nearby. He died before a physician could be summoned. After the coroner's inquest a few hours later the body was removed to Ivey Brothers Funeral Home.

Members of the family expressed knowledge of Mr. Greenwood's despondency over an heart ailment, stating that attending specialists had told the deceased that his illness would be extended for many more months.

Mr. Greenwood married Miss Ellen Maynor 35 years ago and they had lived together in their home at 111 Chestnut Street, S.W. for the past 32 years. He graduated from Atlanta University at the age of 19 and immediately went into the government service as a special clerk. Over nine years ago he was eligible for retirement but preferred to keep working rather than have nothing special to do. As a young man he was active in fraternal, civic and church work, his affiliation being with Central Methodist church.

MAR 2 - 1941

The deceased is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ellen M. Greenwood, three sons, Richard T., of Detroit, Michigan; Alfred M. of Jenkins, Kentucky, and Leon C. of Atlanta; two daughters, Mrs. Lois Greenwood Bailey and Miss Eleanor Greenwood of Atlanta; four sisters, Mmes. Eloise G. Cunningham of Atlanta; Georgia Hicks, of Gary, Ind.; Ruth Carey of Cleveland, O., and Alice Wilborn of Montgomery, Ala.; two brothers, Thornton and Herbert Greenwood both of Los Angeles, California and two uncles, Ridley Greenwood of LaGrange, Georgia and J. B. Greenwood of Atlanta.

Funeral arrangements were not complete Saturday night but rites are expected to be held Tuesday or Wednesday.

Morristown, Tenn. Sun
March 20, 1941

COLORED TEACHER COMMITS SUICIDE

Sheriff Walker and the county coroner were called to the Morristown college Monday morning to investigate the death of Alexander Carophers, 24, who had been a science teacher there for 2 years Their decision was that Caropher met death at his own hands. He was found dead in bed Monday and there was an empty shell in the barrel of a .22 calibre rifle that lay by his side. Apparently he met instant death as the bullet had pierced his heart. It is not definitely known what caused him to commit this rash act but several reasons have been advanced by friends and acquaintances here.

The remains of the deceased were sent to his home in Nashville.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

CLERK SUICIDE, AUDIT BOOKS

John Gordon Baugh, 3rd Takes Own Life by Gas; Gossip Blamed

PHILADELPHIA, May —The books of the Mount Lawn cemetery are being audited for the past five years, following the suicide of John Gordon Baugh, 3rd, scion of an "Old Philadelphia" family, who took his life Friday before last, in the most talked-about tragedy in many years.

MAY 17 1941

Baugh, just 34, was a graduate of the Wharton School of Finance of the University of Pennsylvania, and he had worked for the cemetery since his graduation, first as clerk and then as secretary-manager.

MAY 17 1941

In 1928 he married Miss Virginia Alsop, and to them were born three children. But last January they separated amid much whispering. He worried because she would not come back, and finally, the sorrow too much for him, he killed himself by turning on the gas in his kicthen, after he had taped all the windows and had taped all the windows and taped the gas hose into his mouth.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Two D.C. Girls Try Suicide; One Uses Gas, Other Iodine

APR 5 1941

WASHINGTON

Miss Christine Younger, 18, was found unconscious on a bed in her apartment at 1449 Q Street, Northwest, by Wesley Wills of the same address, after she had allegedly inhaled illuminating gas in an attempt to take her own life, police reported this week, leaving note giving the reasons for her act, the contents of which was not divulged.

APR 5 - 1941

Miss Bobby Jones, 19, of the 900 block of Eleventh Street, Northwest, allegedly attempted suicide, Sunday, by drinking a quanity of iodine at Eighth Street and Rhode Island Avenue, Northwest, according to police reports.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Girl Attempts to Kill Self

MAY 17 1941

RICHMOND—Following closely on the heels of another suicide attempt that proved fatal, Miss Celestine Patterson, 18, of 304 S. Granby Street, was reported to have taken poison at her home on Friday night.

The young woman's condition was not considered serious.

Interment of Miss Elsie Rattley, 21, former West Virginia State co-ed, was in Newport News after she died in St. Philip Hospital as a result of drinking poison on April 15. She lingered for two weeks in St. Philip Hospital.

MAY 17 1941

Miss Rattley was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Rattley and lived at 1910 Rosewood Avenue. She had been employed as a waitress.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Huggins Death Called Suicide By Detective

Police Tell Reporter Their Information Supports Theory

Police this week moved to write finis to the mysterious case of Dr. Willis N. Huggins, who disappeared from his home last December 24 and whose badly decomposed body was taken from the Hudson River at 72nd Street last Wednesday evening.

"We're not supposed to talk for publication," an officer told reporters, "but you can write that we consider the case one of suicide."

This statement was given when the police were asked if the death would be written off as having resulted from "causes unknown" or if there was any evidence in proof death was the result of asphyxiation due to drowning and that Dr. Huggins voluntarily leaped into the water.

Reports that a man is said to have told acquaintances that Dr. Huggins was dead, that he had seen him commit suicide, gave rise to speculation that the doctor might have met foul play. In some circles it was said he might have been killed elsewhere, then tossed into the river, while another contention was that he might have been forced to jump overboard.

68-1941

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Trusty At Kilby Slays Woman, Then Himself

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—Willie Lee, 46-year-old trusty at Kilby Prison, fatally shot a Negro woman and then took his own life Wednesday, Warden Earl Wilson reported Thursday.

Lee, assigned to care for cattle on the prison farm, ventured to an adjoining farm and borrowed a shotgun, Wilson said, then went to the woman's house and shot her.

The Negro broke into another house, changed weapons, and shot himself in a nearby woods, Wilson said he ascertained. The warden said he could not ascribe a motive for the shootings.

Lee was serving a life sentence on conviction of murder in Hale County in 1934.

JAN 9 1941 Ala.

Anniston, Ala. Star
January 8, 1941

FEWER SUICIDES OF NEGROES

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (U.P.) — Six times as many white persons commit suicide in Alabama as Negroes. A survey of the state health department discloses that only 19 Negroes killed themselves in this state last year, as against 218 white persons.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

WIFE, FRIENDS PUZZLED COPS HUNT MOTIVES

Police Report Finding Coat On George Washington Bridge; Hunt Note

JAN 4 1941

All Harlem seethed with speculation this week as continued efforts to determine the whereabouts—or fate—of Dr. Willis N. Huggins, nationally famous educator, met with failure. Police theories of suicide found belief in the minds of many after it was reported that doctor's coat was found at the foot of George Washington Bridge last Monday.

Intimates of Dr. Huggins, strongly doubting he had taken his own life, pointed out that when last seen he had appeared in a normal frame of mind and that his personal affairs, as far as could be ascertained, were in good order.

According to reports, Dr. Huggins walked out of the Blyden Bookshop, Seventh Ave. near 135th St., which he owns, two days before Christmas and hasn't been seen since. The rent for the store is paid up to January, it was said, and no outstanding business debts could be Cidevl. (maoc shrdlu hrdlu hlu uncovered in support of a suicide motive.

Claude Sterrett, local undertaker and friend of Dr. Huggins, admitted Saturday that he had received a letter from the missing man in which, it was later learned through police channels, Dr. Huggins had asked Sterrett to take care of certain private financial matters.

Mrs. Rosetta Huggins, the wife who is also a school teacher and was visiting her mother at Ren-Rose Farm, Youngville, N. C., over the holidays, was unable to throw any further light on her husband's disappearance.

"I know nothing more than what is known by the police," she said, adding that she last saw her mate the Thursday before Christmas when she left town. She arrived home Sunday.

Strong doubt that financial matters had anything to do with Dr. Huggins' disappearance was also expressed by John W. Walker, prominent local realtor and personal friend of the educator for more than 15 years. Walker hinted that whenever Dr. Huggins had needed financial aid, he had been approached and the fact that the missing man hadn't done so recently convinced him that everything was all right from the money angle.

Despite these assurances, other sources hinted that the bookstore owner had not been as rigid in his habits as usual. At the store which is being operated by a nephew of the educator, the absence of Dr. Huggins was explained by the mere statement that he "had left town."

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
February 8, 1941

FINAL RITES ARE HELD FOR NEGRO WOMAN, 107

'Aunt' Emeline Thompson Rode to Raleigh Last Summer on Picnic Truck

Mebane, Feb. 7.—"Aunt" Emeline Thompson, Negro, 107 years of age, the oldest resident of the town of Mebane, died at her home, of a heart ailment. She lived for many years with Mrs. Hattie Scott.

Funeral services were held at the Christian Church, of which she was a member.

"Aunt" Emeline had several sons and daughters from 65 to 75 years of age, and a large number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren living in Mebane.

She was a devout church member, and although she could not read one word or even write her name, she was taught a number of chapters in the Bible from memory as a child, and last October she recited several of these before the entire congregation of the Christian Church.

Last Summer she went with her Church school on a truck to Raleigh for the "Sunday school picnic," and when Mrs. Arthur Scott, one of her white friends, told her that was too far for an old woman to ride, she replied that she saw no use of getting old before her time.

afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Loyal Wife Thwarted in Suicide Attempt

MAR 2 2 1941

CHICAGO—Mrs. William Gay, 70, who is alleged to have attempted to asphyxiate herself here following the death of her husband, to join him in death, suffered no ill effects from her act, according to police who rescued her from a gas-filled room.

MAR 29 1941

A neighbor detected gas in the aged couple's apartment and notified police. Her husband had been dead at least 12 hours, the victim of a heart attack.

afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Youth Leaps into Path of Train

PHILADELPHIA

A 26-year-old youth who is said to have attempted suicide when he saw a rival escorting his girlfriend was rescued from the path of a speeding electric train, Sunday, after he reportedly leaped from the bridge, spanning the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks at Earlham Terrace and Morris Streets.

MAY 3 1941

Second person to attempt suicide during the week, the victim was John Ivy, of 5328 Morris Street, waiter in a swanky mid-city night club, who is detained in a serious condition in Germantown Hospital.

Victims Near Neighbors

Also detained at the same hospital is Charles Ringold, who lived at 5415 Tacoma Street, less than two blocks from the other youth.

Ringold was found unconscious in his gas-filled apartment by police, summoned when neighbors detected fumes and received no feet high.

Rescued by Pedestrian

A pedestrian who noticed the victim's inert form on the tracks answer to repeated knocking. Police as yet have found no motive for his alleged attempt to take his own life.

According to reports, Ivy was on the way to visit a young woman who lived in Earlham Terrace when he spied her coming out of the house with another youth. He is then said to have gone to the bridge which is about fifty dashed down and pulled him to safety shortly before a train sped through the tunnel. He suffered internal injuries and lacerations.

Police said Ivy was subject to dizzy spells and suffered an attack while walking across the bridge. A brother, Raymond, said he had no knowledge of any such ailment suffered by the victim.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

LOS ANGELES MAN KILLS SELF AFTER QUARREL

OCT 11 1941

Widow Freed Of Murder Charges After Probe By Coroner's Jury

LOS ANGELES — Murder or suicide?

A coroner's jury, Monday, decided that Joe Johnson, 31, shot himself on the porch of his home after a bitter argument with his wife, late Saturday night. The widow, booked by police on suspicion of murder, was released at close of the inquest.

Powder burns on the temple of the deceased led the jury to return a verdict of "suicide."

Saturday night she had found her husband at the home of friends, drinking with two women. Johnson refused to leave. Mrs. Johnson drove away in his car, colliding with another car before she got out of the neighborhood.

She told the coroner's jury that when she got home she secured her husband's revolver. She tought perhaps she would kill herself, she said Soon, however, Johnson came home. The widow said that after she hit him with the weapon he took it away from her.

Mrs. Johnson said she then told him that she was through and that she was leaving him. To emphasize her meaning, she slapped him across the face and told him he needn't ever expect anything "decent" from her again.

According to Mrs. Johnson's story, her husband then walked out on the front porch. She said she heard the shot and saw Johnson fall mortally wounded.

Johnson was employed in defense work and was a native of Springfield, Mo.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Body Of Missing Educator Found In Hudson River

NEW YORK—(SNS)—The body of Dr. Willis N. Huggins, nationally known historian and Commissioner of Education for the I. B. P. O. E. of W., was found Friday in the Hudson River off Seventy-second street. The noted educator had been missing since December 23, 1940.

First clue in the mystery came the evening of December 23 when Detective Corbey of the 34th Precinct found a coat on the George Washington Bridge and Dr. Huggins' nephew, Rudolph L. Huggins, identified it as belonging to his missing uncle.

Immediately policemen of the Harbor Squad were dispatched to the scene where they started grappling for the body on the theory that Dr. Huggins was a suicide.

Three theories were advanced after the coat was found on the bridge. Did he commit suicide because of financial difficulties? Was be a victim of foul play? Did he leave the city on a pleasure jaunt?

Friends said it was nothing unusual for the educator to leave town and stay out of the city four or five days without notifying anybody of his departure. His attorney, John A. Ross, Sr., said there had been some mention of Dr. Huggins being in financial difficulty, but the lawyer insisted it was only a rumor. The wife of the drowned man, who was out of the city at the time of his disappearance, said she had received a letter from her husband advising her that "something is going to happen."

Born in Selma, Alabama during the year of 1886, Dr. Huggins was the only Negro ever to hold a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Fordham University. At the time of his disappearance he was a history and economics teacher in the city school system.

The deceased resided at 1890 Seventh Avenue and was the proprietor of the Blyden Book Shop at 2296 1-2 Seventh Avenue. His wife, Mrs. Rosetta Huggins, was in North Carolina visiting her mother during the Christmas holidays at that time. police reported him missing. She returned to the city but would not see newspaper reporters.

When finally found in her husband's book shop, Mrs. Huggins broke down and cried, "I don't know anything about it, only that he is missing."

Dr. Huggins also was employed as assistant principal of the Harlem Evening School.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

His Body Found

The body of Dr. Willis N. Huggins, New York educator, who mysteriously disappeared last December 23 was discovered Saturday morning floating down the Hudson River. His death was believed to have been a suicide.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Suicide Believed Practical Joke

WASHINGTON

Mystery still shrouds the mysterious "suicide" plunge of an unknown excursionist who was reported by a score of pleasure seekers to have dived over the side of the Robert E. Lee while the boat was returning from a cruise Saturday evening.

Most prevalent version of the incident is that a practical joke was intended.

The steamer was near River View when the screams of passengers that a man had dived over brought Special Policeman Thomas Coles to the scene to investigate.

A hat was recovered, bearing the name and address of Edward Bowman, 30, 1724 Willard Street, Northwest, and the boat was held up for half an hour while a police river squad dragged with grappling hooks, but no trace of the missing man was found.

On Sunday, Bowman turned up at his home and said he knew nothing about the affair, as he had quietly walked off the boat with the other passengers. He said his hat must have fallen in the water during the excitement.

Another version of the affair was that Bowman, a former life guard and expert swimmer, had bet another passenger that he could swim the 500 feet to shore. Bowman's presence at home after the excitement added some credence to this version.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Unhappy, Bride Of Three Weeks Takes Own Life

A marriage of only three weeks ended tragically Saturday night when 24-year old Katherine Greer, bride of Edward Greer of 425 E. 44th street, drank lysol while despondent over alleged domestic difficulties.

The young woman died in Provident hospital at 11 o'clock, five hours after she drained a bottle of the poison. Police were informed that she and her husband were not getting along amicably. There were no witnesses. The young woman's mother-in-law said she was not aware of her act until her daughter-in-law said suddenly:

"I've just taken lysol and should be dead by now." Mrs. Greer said her son's wife walked to the telephone and then collapsed. At the inquest the next day a verdict of suicide while despondent was returned.

Another suicide victim was Miss Mahla Neal, 3533 South Parkway. Miss Neal drank iodine in her home Sunday night. She died in county hosiptal early Monday morning without giving any reason for her act. The young woman's boy friend, Robert Byrd, a hotel employe, said he was asleep when she came in, but was awakened when she fell by the side of his bed.

"I asked her what was the matter," Byrd told police. "She said she had just taken poison." Byrd said they had not quarrelled and was unable to advance any reason for her committing suicide.

Mrs. Rosa Lee Scott, with whom she lived, corroborated Byrd's statement. Mrs. Scott said she heard nothing which would indicate a quarrel, nor did she know of any trouble between them.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Tenn. Teacher Is Found Dead In Her Bathtub

Suicide Theory Is Being Studied

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—Mrs. Emma Broughton Jones, 64-year-old grammar school teacher, whose mother was noted for years in home and foreign missionary work of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., was found dead in a partly filled bathtub of water in her home late Tuesday morning.

Although neighbors strongly hinted suicide, police officers who investigated circumstances surrounding the case intimated that Mrs. Jones might have died in the bath tub as the result of an accident. A cripple in one of her legs, Mrs. Jones, according to the theory advanced by the police, may have fallen into the tub accidentally and could not free herself.

Her body was discovered in the tub by neighbors. She had been dead about 24 hours, it was reported.

Mrs. Jones spent Sunday night with her sister, Dr. Elizabeth B. Sykes, 292 South Lauderdale St. Dr. Sykes saw her last Monday morning just before she returned to her own home in Klondyke subdivision. She was attired in a white chiffon silk dress upon reaching home Monday, neighbors stated, but Tuesday, during the investigation, no such dress could be located.

The WORLD was informed that one of Mrs. Jones' neighbors was called by Mrs. Sykes to find out if anything was wrong with her sister.

"I went to the rear door of Mrs. Jones' home where I found the lattice porch door unlocked but closed, the neighbor, who refused to reveal her name, said. "I entered the porch and proceeded to the next door leading into the house. It too was unlocked by closed. As I pushed the door open, I saw the remains of Mrs. Jones lying face down in the bath tub. She was unclad and there was water on the floor that had a pink tint."

A WORLD reporter, while at the scene, observed small bits of charred cloth and burned newspaper in the heater of the bedroom of Mrs. Jones' home. This paper is believed to have contained some kind of liquid from the way it had been.

Mrs. Jones had been a teacher at Klondyke School for more than 20 years. She came from an illustrious family background. Her mother was one of the first graduates of Fisk University and sang with the famous Fisk Jubilee Singers when they toured England and countries of Continental Europe

68-1941

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Attempts Suicide Over Ill Stomach; Train Misses Him

With liquor on his breath and a pain in his stomach James Edwards, 58, of 2910 State street, resolved Sunday that life just wasn't worth the worry, so he sought the aid of a Rock Island train to get away from it all.

Lying down on the railroad tracks at Twenty-ninth street, Edwards commended his soul to whoever wished it and waited for an oncrushing train.

Although the engineer, Paul Behrns, caught sight of the would-be suicide, he was unable to bring the train to a stop until the locomotive and five cars had passed over Edwards.

However, when the crew jumped out and ran to the spot where Edwards lay they found him crawling from beneath a coach and rubbing his shoulder.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Wife Phones Cop; Find Husband A Suicide Victim

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"Please go to 603 U street, northwest, and see if my husband is shot."

That request was made to a clerk at police headquarters by telephone on Friday night. A scout car was sent to the address and officers found the body of Norman Brown, 31-year-old postoffice clerk slumped over a second-floor railing. Two bullet wounds were in his chest, police said.

The distress call was made to police by Mrs. Lillian Browne, the clerk's estranged wife, and came from 10 miles away, in Falls Church, Va.

After police traced the call to Mrs. Brown and reconstructed the incident, they learned the shooting had happened his way: Brown called his wife twice on the evening of the shooting, asking if she would come back to him. When the wife demurred, Brown is said to have voiced a veiled threat of suicide.

After Brown is said to have threatened to kill himself upon failure to effect a reconciliation, the wife said she heard two shots over the open phone wire.

She then called police to go to the house where Brown roomed. A physician pronounced him dead and Coroner A. M. McDonald issued a certificate of suicide.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ENRAGED MAN SHOOTS SPOUSE; KILLS SELF

SEP 20 1941

NEW ORLEANS, La., Sept. 18—As a result of an argument over his apparently intoxicated condition, Wilfred Cureau, 25-year-old WPA worker, of 3314 Third street, fired a shot in the right side of the body of his wife, Myrtle Cureau, and then shot himself. Cureau died immediately after his self-inflicted wounds.

Cureau, it is reported, became hysterical when his wife screamed after being shot with a 38-caliber revolver and obtained a 30.30-caliber Winchester rifle, firing one shot, which tore off half of his head.

Mrs. Cureau's condition is said to be undetermined.

he Plaindealer
ansas City, Kan.

Unwilling To Face Husband With Unpaid Bills, Woman Takes Her Life, Officers Say

SEP 26 1941

-TOPEKA.—Unwillingness to face her husband with an itemized list of bills which he thought had been paid, was the alleged reason why Mrs. Gussie Stanley, 54, of 1501 East Crane Street, shot herself through the head with a .38 calibre revolver shortly before her husband returned from work one afternoon last week, according to officers.

SEP 26 1941

Officers answering the call found her lying unconscious in her home She was rushed to a hospital where she died about three hours later.

According to the story J. W. Stanley, her husband, a Santa Fe employe, told officers he had been letting her take care of their finances Early this week the city water department shut off their water. He then asked her to make an itemized list of unpaid bills so he could take care of them. He also told her that he would pay the bills hereafter and relieve her of the burden of looking after them.

While preparing the list, it is believed, she wrote a suicide note informing him there was no money left, not even a bank account which he thought amounted to a sizeable sum. She said no one was to blame for her act. Officers said her husband told them Mrs. Stanley was a good woman but she did not know how to handle money. He said that recently he realized that to take care of their finances was too great a burden on her and he planned to take the job off her hands. Dr. H A. Alexander, county coroner, said it was a plain case of suicide brought on by financial worries.

Mrs. Stanley had made her home in Topeka about twenty years and was a member of St. John's AME Church. Funeral services were held Monday at 10 a. m. from the Bowser Mortuary at which a large crowd attended.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Bail Jumper Hangs Self in Conn. Jail

OCT 25 1941

BALTIMORE — Making good his second attempt to obstruct justice, Frank Henson, 43, wanted in Baltimore County for jumping a $7,000 bail, committed suicide by hanging himself in a Bridgeport, Conn., jail last week.

According to Connecticut police, Henson, arrested by authorities of that State on a lottery charge, was being held pending trial. Officers said that when they noticed that his identity resembled that of the man wanted by Maryland police, his fingerprints were sent here to be checked.

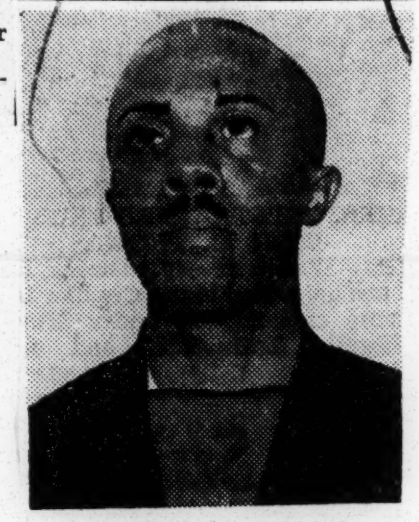
In the meantime, Henson fled from jail there and was captured only after several shots had been fired by police during a chase. This confirmed the suspicions of the Connecticut authorities and arrangements were made to extradite him to Towson for trial.

Hangs Self with Belt

Late Thursday, a turnkey in the Bridgeport jail found Henson's body dangling from an upper bar in his cell. Police said he had used his belt as a noose. The suspect was cut down but was pronounced dead shortly thereafter.

Feared Local Police

One reason advanced for Henson's suicide in Connecticut was that he probably feared being returned to the Baltimore County authorities for trial. It was recalled that when Baltimore friends appeared at Towson bail him out, Henson bore th



FRANK HENSON

marks of alleged police brutal it was said.

His face was so badly bea the AFRO was told, that his were bloodshot and his lips pu beyond their normal size.

The question of whether or the $7,000 bail posted for his a pearance in court in Towson w be refunded remains up to th presiding jurists of Baltimo County. They have authority t return a portion of it, or refuse to grant any concessions, it was stated by authoritative sources.

Henson was originally arrested on a charge of breaking and entering a home in Sunnybrook last November and then allegedly attempting to assault the owner Royster King, white.

He was released under bail posted by William (Little Willie) Adams of Baltimore pending a court hearing.

Arrested with Woman

When Henson failed to appear when the case was called to trial, his bail was ordered forfeited and a search instituted for him. This proved futile until Henson again ran afoul of the law in Bridgeport.

Taken into custody with Henson was a Mrs. Isabelle Colclough of this city, who, according to Superintendent of Police Wheeler, was charged with "living in adultery."

Local police recalled that a woman of that name who lived in the 1000 block of N. Carey Street also disappeared from Baltimore at the same time Henson was employed at a Pennsylvania Avenue tavern, it was stated.

afro-american
Baltimore, Maryland

Father of 10 Kisses Wife, Hangs Self

NOV 1 1941

PHILADELPHIA.

Faced with eviction by a constable and unable to find shelter for his ten small children, Samuel Thompson, 52, kissed his wife early Sunday morning, took one last look at his sleeping brood, then went down to the cellar and hanged himself—a day before he was to get his old job back.

Nobody knew Thompson was in the basement, in fact his wife, Catherine, was under the impression he had gone out on his daily mission of looking for a suitable house within their meagre means, with a realtor who did not object to children.

Son Finds Body

Hence the tragedy was not discovered until seven hours later, when their 12-year-old son, David, sent to the cellar for wood to start the dinner fire, bumped into the body of his father dangling by a crude noose of electric cord attached to the water pipes.

Together, the frantic wife and the boy, oldest of the children, managed to cut Thompson down, called police who rushed him to Presbyterian Hospital where he was pronounced dead upon arrival.

NOV 1 1941

It had been hard enough for Thompson to provide for the family of twelve with what he earned working with a labor crew at Westinghouse Electric Manufacturing Company, his wife told the AFRO, but when he was laid off two weeks ago, things became desperate.

House Hunt Futile

The constable threatened to evict them and for the past week, she said, her husband had gone out daily seeking a suitable place for them to move. That was no easy task, she added, with landlords not wanting tenants who had children.

But on Friday, Mrs. Thompson said, the foreman of her husband's crew at Westinghouse had dropped by and notified Thompson to report to work Monday. He seemed to be in better spirits after that, the wife said, although finding a house appeared to constantly prey on his mind.

Kissed Wife Goodbye

She said he awoke her at 6:15 a.m., Sunday and told her that he was going out to Forty-fifth and Woodland Avenue and look over a house that a friend told him was for rent. "He went into the children's room," Mrs. Thompson said, "stood looking at them for a few minutes, then came back into our room; held our year-old son, Joseph, then kissed us both and said he was going."

NOV 1 1941

Under the impression that he had gone out, Mrs. Thompson got the children's breakfast, dressed them and sent them to Sunday school. When they returned and the husband still had not come home, she sent David to chop wood with the intention of having dinner ready by the time Thompson came in.

A former AFRO salesman himself, three of Thompson's seven boys were AFRO carriers. One of them, Herman, 9, is a crack carrier-salesman and won numerous AFRO prizes, including a trip to the Joe Louis-Lou Nova fight last month.

Tears now replace the happy smile of 9-year-old Herman Thompson, crack Philadelphia AFRO newsboy, shown above as he awaited a train to New York for the Louis-Nova fight, a reward for his super-salesmanship. The lad's father, Samuel Thompson, 52, hanged himself Sunday morning in the cellar of their home.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

"I'M GOING TO KEEP ON FIGHTING," SAYS CHAMP

OCT 4 1941

By James Edmund Boyack

NEW YORK, Oct. 2—Anyone who thinks Joe Louis is about to retire from the ring is talking through his hat!

This is the conclusion reached by the writer after consulting with the principals in the case.

In this corner is John Roxborough and Julian Black, co-managers of the heavyweight champion of the world. In that corner is Mike Jacobs, generalissimo of boxing in the United States. Under the glaring spotlights in the middle of the ring stands Joseph Louis Barrow, the greatest champion of all time.

All agree that the world-famous "Brown Bomber" will defend his title at least three more times, if successful. He will then have defended his crown as many time as all the former titleholders put together. We sincerely believe this to be Joe's goal today after his thrilling victory over Lou Nova.

"TOO YOUNG TO QUIT BUSINESS," JOE SAYS

Soft-voiced Joe told The Pittsburgh Courier:

"I haven't exactly made up my mind yet . . . but if I do retire I want to do so undefeated. However, I'm in no hurry. Fighting is my business . . . I'm a young man yet, not even 27. Why should I retire from business? Lots of folks stay in business longer than that!!

Michael Jocobs, the promotorial genius who has produced more than $2,000,000.00 for the Brown Bomber and his managers asked us:

OCT 4

"Why should Louis retire? I'm telling you that he won't retire even if he loses his next contest. Last year, you boys were saying that the champion had no more competition. Well, you see what happened. This year Billy Conn came within an inch of taking his crown. Buddy Baer knocked him out of the ring in Washington and Abe Simon went 13 rounds with him in Washington. But let me remind you that Joe won his six fights this year by the knockout route. Why don't you look at Louis' record. Then you wouldn't be talking to me about retirement!!

"Today, the champion has more competition than ever and there are formidable new challengers coming up all the time.

"In my opinion, Joe Louis is good for another two or three years. He'll show you in the ring how much he is slipping!!"

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Admits Theft Then Leaps To Her Death

NOV 1 1941

CLEVELAND, Ohio.—Rather than suffer disgrace by being taken to the police station, a 41-year-old trusted stock-clerk in the May company's department store for a number of years, Mrs. Lulu Gentry, a member of a highly respected family, leaped to her death Saturday after admitting the theft of two dresses from the store, according to police.

The detective said she was carrying a stolen dress beneath her clothing when questioned. While being questioned she broke away from the detective, ran to the employes' wash room, jumped out the open window, her body falling on the brick pavement below.

1941

Detectives said Mrs. Gentry had admitted taking dresses valued at $15 and $22. One, they said, was found in a locker. Ten other dresses were reported by police to have been found in her home, believed to belong to the store.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Plumber Is Suicide

OCT 4—1941

Despondency over lack of work and alleged marital difficulties are given by police for the suicide Monday of Jack Ford, 34, of 14 Morningside avenue, in his car which was found parked on Riverside drive and 136th street.

Ford was found slumped over the wheel of his car, a bullet hole in his temple. Nearby lay the gun with which police say he took his life. He was said to be survived by a wife, Naomi.

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Woman Suicide By Gas In Basement Apartment

OCT 1 1941

The body of Julia Gorenberg, 38, of 310 West 138th street, was found in her basement apartment around 9:30 a. m., Monday, when a friend, Arthur Mason, of 48 West 120th street, went to pay her a visit and found her dead. Gas flowed from two open jets on the kitchen stove.

Dr. Latteri of Harlem Hospital pronounced the woman dead on arrival after emergency squad members failed to revive her. Investigation by police of the West 135th street police station resulted in a suicide verdict.

The woman's husband, A. B. Gorenberg, of 226 Putnam street, New Haven, Conn., was notified by police of the tragedy.

afro-american
Baltimore, Maryland

Fate of $7,000 Bail in Suicide's Case Undecided

NOV 8 1941

BALTIMORE.

The fate of the $7,000 bond posted by William (Little Willie) Adams on behalf of Frank Hensen, Baltimore trucking contractor who committed suicide in his jail cell in Connecticut last week rather than return to Towson for trial, still hangs in the balance, the AFRO learned Thursday.

Mr. Adams posted the bail last November to guarantee Henson's appearance in Towson where he was to stand trial on charges of breaking into a Sunnybrook home and allegedly attempting to assault the owner.

When the case was called to trial, Henson was absent. After a search failed to locate him. Mr. Adams was ordered to forfeit the bail.

Arrest in Connecticut

Two weeks ago, Henson was arrested by Bridgeport, Conn., authorities on a lottery charge. As a result of routine investigation, police of that State were informed that he was the person believed wanted by Towson authorities.

Fearing return to Maryland, Henson first attempted to flee from the jail, but was apprehended after a short chase during which shots were fired. A few days later his body was found dangling from an upper

Question up to 11-8 to 1941

Queries to determine what happens to the bail revealed that son's body was shipped to his whether or not the money or part of it is returned remains entirely up to the jurists of the Balti-

County courts in Towson. the present time, attorneys Mr. Adams are probing into legal aspects of this angle to out what can be done. Henbody was shipped to his in Monroe, N.C., where his Mrs. Mary Rippie, was in charge of funeral services.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

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Arrest in Connecticut

Two weeks ago, Henson was arrested by Bridgeport, Conn., authorities on a lottery charge. As a result of routine investigation, police of that State were informed that he was the person believed wanted by Towson authorities.

Fearing return to Maryland, Henson first attempted to flee from the jail, but was apprehended after a short chase during which shots were fired. A few days later his body was found dangling from an upper bar in his cell. He had taken his life, by hanging with his belt, police said.

Queries to determine what happens to the bail revealed that son's body was shipped to his whether or not the money or part of it is returned remains entirely up to the jurists of the Balti-

NOV 8 1941

Question up to

e County courts in Towson.
t the present time, attorneys
Mr. Adams are probing into
legal aspects of this angle to
out what can be done. Hen-
s body was shipped to his
e in Monroe, N.C., where his
, Mrs. Mary Rippie, was in
ge of funeral services.

68-1941

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Man, 53, Brooding Over Death Of Son, Kills Self with Gun

VAUX HALL, N. J.—In ill-health for the past two years and brooding over the death of his son a year ago, 53-year-old Fletcher Gaines, of 1 Eastside Avenue, ended his life early Friday morning by shooting himself in the head.

His body was discovered around 7 A. M. by a neighbor, lying on Tuxedo Place, a short distance from where he lived. The police was notified, with Radio Patrolmen Forster and Edighofer, and Sergeant Tuefel responding to the call.

Also answering a call was the town physician, Dr. Gelber, who pronounced the elderly man dead upon his arrival. The physician stated that Gaines had been dead possibly an hour. An examination of the wound showed that he used a 32-caliber revolver to fire a shot into the right side of his head, just above the ear.

The suicide victim's body was ordered removed to Jordan's morgue by County Physician Brokaw, with the weapon used by Gaines being held by the police.

A resident of Vaux Hall for over 20 years, members of the family and neighbors said Gaines had been ill for several years, but suffered mostly during the past two years. When his son, William Gaines, died last July, they said, the father began to grieve.

On the morning of the suicide, it was reported that he arose around 4 A. M. and walked around the house, this action drawing the attention of his wife, Mrs. Aldora Gaines. Since Gaines usually arose to prepare for work around 6 A. M., Mrs. Gaines, it is said, did not become unduly concerned. A few hours later she was shocked to learn of the suicide.

In addition to his widow, the deceased man is survived by two sons, James, age 24, and Fletcher Gaines, Jr., 12. Also his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James P. Gaines, of Drake's Branch, Va., where he was born, and a sister, Mrs. Annie Wilson, of New York City.

Before settling in this town, the Gaines' family lived in Newark at 96 Nesbitt Street. The suicide victim was an active member of the Calvary Baptist Church here, and was prominent in community programs until his health began to decline. He was a charter member of the Vaux Hall Community Health Committee and the Vaux Hall Colored Democratic Club, at one time serving as treasurer of the latter organization.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Probes Suicide In Conn. Jail

Conclude Victim Took Own Life After Inquiry Into Circumstances

BRIDGEPORT, Conn.—The N. A. A. C. P., through the local president, John W. Lancaster, Jr., and the Rev. F. W. Jacobs, a member of the executive board of the local branch, has investigated the case of Frank Henson, alias Jack Warren, suspected "phantom" house burglar, who is alleged to have committed suicide in a cell at the county jail here October 17.

A careful examination of Henson's body disclosed no marks of violence and after conferring with Superintendent of Police Charles A. Wheeler and Captain James H. Bray, Mr. Lancaster announced that "The N. A. A. C. P. is satisfied that Henson met death at his own hands. The Bridgeport police have added.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Murder and Suicide Ends All-Night Tiff

BALTIMORE.—Climaxing an all-night marital argument in their home at 1301 N. Central Avenue, Louis G. Cannon, 49, stabbed his wife, Mrs. Lula Cannon, to death and then took his own life on Sunday afternoon, Northeastern District police reported.

Called to investigate the odor of gas flowing through the three-story house on Central Avenue, Officers Charles McKee and John R. Smith stated that they found the bodies of the Cannons lying side by side on the kitchen floor when they entered the first floor apartment.

They reported that the three rear rooms in the apartment were smeared and splattered with blood and the bodies of both persons were covered with blood from head to foot. A blood-covered butcher knife lay nearby.

Daughter Recalls Argument

Relatives could advance no reason for the tragedy and the only statement throwing any light on it was a report by Mrs. Ruby Cannon Jenkins, a daughter who occupies the third-floor apartment, that she had heard her parents arguing all during Saturday night.

The murder-suicide was discovered by Mrs. Dimples Ferguson, who resides on the second floor, who called to Mrs. Jenkins after smelling the escaping gas. Police who arrived immediately afterwards summoned the medical examiner, who said that Mrs. Cannon died from knife wounds and Mr. Cannon from gas asphyxiation.

Separate Rites Planned

The body of Mrs. Cannon, who formerly worked at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, was claimed by members of her family. It is now at the Holland Funeral Home, 1631 Druid Hill Avenue, where it will remain until Wednesday evening when it will be shipped to her home in Mullins, S.C., for burial.

Besides her daughter, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Cannon, who was a member of First Baptist Church, is survived by her mother, Mrs. Eggis Gause; another daughter, Mrs. Martha Cannon Humbles, Hampton Institute graduate and a teacher at the Cortez Peters Business School in Washington. Both are Mrs. Cannon's daughters by a former marriage.

Mr. Cannon's body is at the Locks Funeral Home, 1302 N. Central Avenue, where it will remain until 10 p.m. on Wednesday when it will be shipped to his home in Woodruff, S.C., for burial.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Succeeds In 2nd Attempt At Suicide

QUINCY, Ill.—There can certainly be no doubt that Juanita Sanders, 43-year-old handy man of the Pure Ice company, was serious about his intentions to commit suicide.

Sanders was found dead in his apartment above the garage of the Pure Ice company building from the blast of a .12 guage shotgun which he evidently had fired into his mouth by pressing the trigger with his foot.

But this means of ending his life was used only a few second after the first had failed. Sanders' first attempt left him still alive with the building around him almost a complete wreck. He closed his apartment, turned on the gas, then lighted a cigar, apparently hoping that the resulting explosion would end things for him.

Instead, the explosion bulged the west wall of the building, loosened bricks and jarred loose heavy stone sills of windows; shattered glass, brought down plastering, and blew doors out of alignment.

Through it all, Sanders remained alive. A young womon on the porch of a building adjacent to the Pure Ice building stated that immediately after the explosion she looked up and saw Sanders standing in the window. She said he was fully clothed, wearing hat and jacket. He said nothing. Shortly after that the shotgun blast was heard.

When the body of Sanders was found by a policeman and an executive of the ice company, tools used by Sanders to disconnect the gas main and a hose attached to the main were found on a table near the main.

The date of inquest was set for Monday, Nov. 24 at 7 p.m. Sanders was a member of Bethel A.M.E. church here. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Althea Brown; a widow, Mrs. Sally Sanders; five children; two grandchildren, and a sister. He was considered a valuable employe by the Pure Ice company where he had worked for 15 years. No reason could be determined for Sanders' desire to end his life.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

'Phantom Burglar' Suspect Commits Suicide in Prison

NOV 25 1941

BRIDGEPORT, Conn.—Frank Henson, alias Jack Warren, of 4 Carter Court, believed to have been the "phantom" burglar, responsible for many house breaks in the North end, committed suicide in a cell at the County Jail last Friday by hanging himself with bed sheets he made into a rope.

Henson's suicide came while the men were being marched from their cells for lunch. He is reported to have dashed from the line of men extending to the end of the jail tier, slipped into the cell unnoticed by the guards, slipped a noose about his neck and threw his weight against it.

Dr. H. R. DeLuca, medical examiner, said that Henson in placing the noose about his neck, placed it so that there was pressure around a nerve which stopped heart action within 30 seconds. NOV 25 1941

Henson's death came on his third attempt at suicide since his arrest last Tuesday when he was lodged in a police headquarters cell for questioning on a charge of having lottery tickets in his possession.

He had been locked up an hour Tuesday when he requested to Captain James H. Bray. Released to Captain Bray, the prisoner suddenly dashed through an open door and fled into Fairfield Avenue, one of Bridgeport's busiest streets. Henson was recaptured on Wednesday, however, and placed in a cell at police headquarters where he first attempted suicide by utilizing one of his socks and garters. This attempt was frustrated by the police.

The following day he again attempted suicide by jumping from the top stairs to the concrete floor of the basement eight feet below at the County Jail.

During nearly eight hours of grilling by police, Henson admitted he was wanted in Baltimore where he was charged with 100 house burglaries and had skipped an $8,000 bond.

Surviving Henson is his wife, Isabelle, 30, who was held also on a technical charge of the peace in lieu of $2,500 bail. Her release is expected this week.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Succeeds In 2nd Suicide Attempt

DEC 7 1941

QUINCY, Ill., Nov. 27—Juanita Sanders, 43 year old handy man of the Pure Ice company here, was found dead in his apartment above the company's garage this week in a second, and successful attempt to end his life. Sanders killed himself with a .12 gauge shotgun which he evidently fired into his mouth by pressing the trigger with his foot.

The first attempt to kill himself was effected when Sanders turned on the gas in his air-tight apartment and then lighted a cigar. The resulting explosion wrecked the building around him, but he emerged alive.

Globe and
Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

YOUNG PH. D. OF WILBERFORCE IS BELIEVED SUICIDE

DEC 5 1941

Dr. Robert Coleman Thought To Have Taken His Life Because Salary Was Not Raised

DEC 5 1941

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 4 (ANP)—**The body of Robert Coleman, 26-year-old possessor of a Ph. D. degree and professor of mathematics and physics at Wilberforce university, was finally found in a YMCA room here last Monday, a victim of poisoning. Discovery of the body culminated a seven-week search which began on Oct. 7, when he was reported missing from his Wilberforce classes.**

At the local YMCA, Coleman had registered under an assumed name of Donald Ellis of New York City. His disappearance from Wilberforce had baffled police officials throughout Ohio and an intensive search had been carried on by the police all over the middle west to ascertain his whereabouts. Although his vanishing act from the Wilberforce campus created a great mystery, discovery of his body on the Pacific coast some 2,000 miles away from the spot where he was last seen leads to even greater speculation.

Last Monday, information was given out by the Los Angeles morgue that a body answering the description of Robert Coleman was being held here. Coleman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coleman, Sr., in Cleveland had given the Cleveland Detective bureau several pictures of their son, which were to be sent to Los Angeles police department for identification. DEC 5 1941

Disclosure was made of how the unidentified body of a fatal heart attack victim was traced clear across the nation to the Coleman home in Cleveland. It seems that a man had registered at the YMCA here last week and the following morning after his registration, he was found lying dead in his room. Upon examination of contents of his pockets, a letter was found addressed to a white lad in Virginia, who had been one of Coleman's school chums at Western Reserve university. Contact with this lad led to further contact with the parents of Coleman in Cleveland.

Before discovery of the body was made, the elderly Coleman had hired a special investigator to comb the state in an effort to locate the deceased son. Circulars were sent out to various colleges describing the missing boy.

Dr. Coleman was reported to have left Wilberforce because of dissatisfaction over teaching on his old salary scale after having been promised an increase when he received his Ph. D, degree. The advanced degree was obtained after a year of absence from the university's faculty, during which time he studied at Columbia university under a Julius Rosenwald scholarship.

Returning to Wilberforce to teach mathematics and physics, he did so with the understanding that his salary would be comparable with the salary of the advanced degree. However, it was hinted in letters to his parents that the raise was not forthcoming. DEC 5 1941

The valedictorian of his Central High school graduating class at the age of 15, he received his bachelor of arts degree from Western Reserve university at 19 and went on to Columbia, where he received his master of arts degree from Western Reserve university at 19 and went on to Columbia, where he received his master of arts degree at 20.

His parents were unaware of his disappearance from the campus until they read a story in a Cleveland newspaper.

After an autopsy of the body, which disclosed poison, the remains are to be shipped to Cleveland for burial.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Fugitive Sought 43 Years, Cheats Justice By Hanging Self In Jail

DEC 20 1941

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A criminal career which began 43 years ago in a North Carolina town and was climaxed when the principal hanged himself in a Bridgeport, Conn., jail cell with a necktie, as George Noble, local sleuth, trailed him up and down the Eastern Seaboard, ended recently with the burial of Frank Henson.

Henson formerly lived in Baltimore, Md., and was arrested on a charge of burglary. Willie Adams, realtor and owner of the Casino, went his bond.

Henson jumped bond on December 20, 1940, taking with him the wife of a Baltimore man, who it was later learned he gave a $1,000 coat and $800 cash.

Adams engaged Detective Noble to track down the bail-jumper.

Aunt Works at College

Noble's clues took him twice to a North Carolina educational institution where Henson had an aunt employed. Later, he traveled to New York, where the fugitive is said to have had a common-law wife in addition to the woman he persuaded to leave her Baltimore husband. A reward of $200 offered by Adams brought no conclusive evidence. DEC 20 1941

Subsequently, a series of robberies in the fashionable district of Bridgeport, in which only cash was taken, broke out. Henson was picked up, but released when no evidence was found upon him.

Suspicion seemed to turn to him, however, and he was arrested again and held for possessing numbers slips. A check of police records revealed that he was a wanted man.

It was while awaiting return to Baltimore by Noble that Henson took his own life. The body was shipped to the North Carolina town for burial by an aunt.

Henson's death, Bridgeport police said, established the identity of the phantom burglar who gained the name of "The Black Terror" by h, swift, stealthy burglarizing of exclusive homes from which he took only cash.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

D.C. Minister Kills Self

DEC 27 1941

WASHINGTON

The Rev. Lawson Harold, 25, **of 42.5 Eads** Street, Northeast, **employed in** the General Accounting Office, a suicide victim, according to police, who was **found dead of** a gunshot wound at his home Tuesday night, left a note requesting the AFRO not to carry a story of his case.

The fact that he was a minister,

Shoots Self in Bath Tub

police said, was revealed by papers and other documents found in his home, a number of them signed, "Rev. Lawson Harold."

He had been dead approximately ten hours from a bullet fired into his heart while he was in his bath tub, according to officers, the body being clad only in underclothing.

Information given the AFRO by investigators revealed that the minister had been separted from his wife, Mrs. Beatrice Harold, for a short period of time. He left a note which the detectives found requesting the AFRO not to carry a story of his case.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Swallows Poison, Receives Treatment

PORTSMOUTH — George Benton, 23, of 2401 Pearl Street, was carried to King's Daughters' Hospital Saturday and treated for the the effects of poison (Lysol) which he allegedly swallowed, according to police reports.